



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Sid Morrison
Secretary of Transportation

Transportation Building
P.O. Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300

May 23, 2000

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), I encourage you to support and co-sponsor Senate Bill (S1900), the "High Speed Rail Investment Act of 2000." This legislation will establish a long-term, dedicated source of capital funding for intercity rail passenger development. Because the funds will be generated by the sale of bonds, funding for highway, aviation, and transit systems will not be impacted.

Washington State is proud of the progress we have made in developing intercity rail passenger service. Time and again, we are considered a national leader in promoting this safe, efficient, and valuable method of moving people. Your continued support is a major reason for our success.

As one of the original five national corridors to be developed for high speed rail, our state is well positioned to take advantage of the capital funding available under S1900. In an era of uncertain state resources for transportation, it is vitally important that Washington State seize this opportunity to further leverage federal, state, regional, and private investments.

I have enclosed letters of support and information on S1900 for your consideration. This bill has widespread, bi-partisan support from states, labor, and various interest groups. If you have further questions, please contact Ken Uznanski, Manager of the WSDOT Rail Office, at 360-705-7905.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sid Morrison
Secretary of Transportation

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Enclosures

cc: Rick Daniels